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#1/GRCE

PTO/SB/30 (09-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE erwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number Request 09/480.837 Application Number for Januray 10, 2000 Filing Date Continued Examination (RCE) S. GEHRING et al. First Named Inventor **Transmittal** Address to: Art Unit Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents Chirag G. SHAH Examiner Name P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 009-41 Attorney Docket Number This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. MAR 0 2 2004 Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on Technology Center 2500 Enclosed i Amendment/Reply Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) ii. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.11. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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